

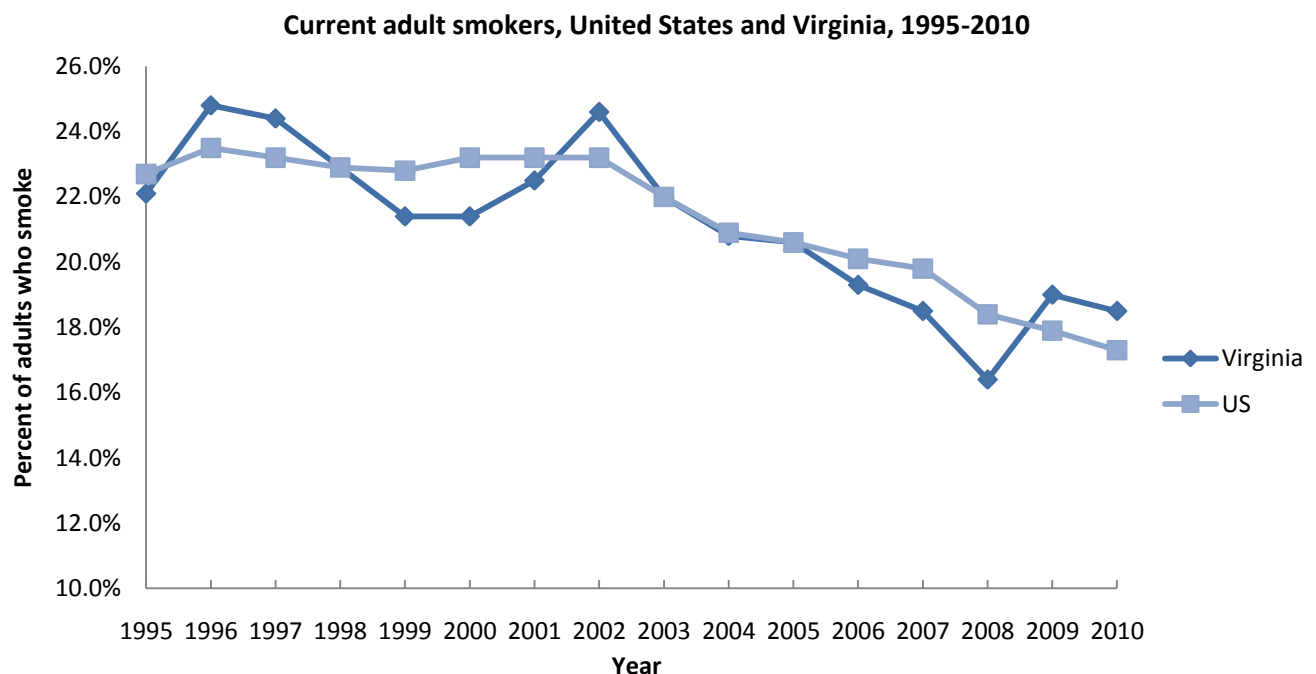
Smoking among Adults in Virginia

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), smoking harms nearly every organ of the body, causing many diseases and affecting the health of smokers in general. Smoking causes many types of cancers, heart disease, respiratory disease, and complicates pregnancy outcomes.

Secondhand smoke, or environmental smoke, also causes significant illness and disease. For more information on secondhand smoke, please see the CDC's fact sheet at: http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/secondhand_smoke/health_effects/index.htm

Smoking rates in the U.S. and Virginia had been declining in the past ten years, though rates in Virginia increased in 2009.

- In Virginia in 2010, 18.5% of adults were current smokers.
- As income increases, smoking rates significantly decrease. In other words, the more money a household makes, the less likely household members are to smoke.
- Education is similarly associated with smoking habits: as education increases, smoking rates decrease.



Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Prevalence and Trends Data, accessed 6/2011.
Data note: Percents are weighted based on household and demographic characteristics.

Healthy People 2020 Objective:

TU-1.1 Reduce cigarette smoking by adults to 12%.